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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/032,676	10/19/2001	Thomas W. Jacobs		7305

7590

02/02/2004

RAMON L. PIZARRO
Suite 200
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EXAMINER

RADA, ALEX P

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3714

DATE MAILED: 02/02/2004

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

8m

Interview Summary	Application No. 10/032,676	Applicant(s) JACOBS ET AL.	
	Examiner Alex P. Rada	Art Unit 3714	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Alex P. Rada. (3) _____

(2) Ramon L. Pizarro Reg. No. 37,207. (4) _____

Date of Interview: 29 January 2004.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☐ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____

Claim(s) discussed: 1.

Identification of prior art discussed: LeVasseur '789 and Moody '335.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☒ N/A.

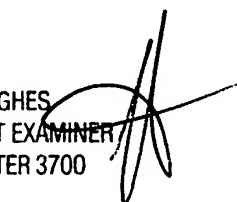
Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

S. THOMAS HUGHES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.



Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Applicant's representative elaborated on the differences between the LeVasseur and Moody references to the claimed invention. Applicant's faxed over proposed claim language for discussion. Applicant states that the at least two players hand positions is defined by at least two separate and different card hands and not identical card hands being used three times as suggested by Moody. The examiner pointed out that applicant's arguments regarding the separate hands are two separate and different card hands are not mentioned in the claims. Given the broadest reasonable interpretation, the LeVasseur and Moody reference still read on the proposed claimed invention. The examiner suggested to applicant to further elaborate on the players hand position. Arguments presented would have to be submitted in written form and further search and consideration would have to be done.

FAX TRANSMISSION

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NOTICE

This communication is intended for the sole use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient or the authorized employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the law office of Ramon L. Pizarro immediately by collect telephone call, and return the communication to the address above.

To: Examiner Rada

Date: 1/28/04

Fax #: (703) 746 3242

Pages: 5 including this cover sheet.

From:

Subject: 10/032,676 (Jacobs) -For Discussion

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/032,676

Examiner: Rada, A. P.

Applicant: Jacobs et al.

Group Art Unit: 3714

Filing date: 10/19/2001

Date: 1/29/04

Title: MULTIPLE DEALERS BLACKJACK***INFORMAL- FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY***

In response to the office action of September 10, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below.

1. IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1. (Presently Amended) An electronic gaming method based on a Blackjack card game played according to a set of rules of Blackjack, the gaming method using a dealer hold criteria and allowing a single player at a location to play blackjack against a plurality of dealers from a casino, the gaming method comprising:

Providing a player selected number of independent dealer hand positions comprising of at least two dealer hand positions;

Providing ~~a single~~ at least two player hand ~~position~~ positions;

App. SN 10/032,676, page 1

Providing wager placement positions corresponding with each dealer hand position;

Crediting the player for a wager placed in each wager position;

Dealing a pair of cards to ~~the player~~ each player hand position to create a player hand at each player hand position;

Dealing a pair of cards to each of the dealers, each of the dealers receiving one card face up;

Dealing cards to ~~the player~~ at each player hand position at the request of the player to create a player hold hand at each player hand position;

Dealing cards to each dealer based on the dealer hold criteria to create a dealer hold hand for each dealer;

Then comparing, based on the rules of Blackjack, the single player hold hand at each player hand position to each dealer hold hand to determine if the player hold hand at each player hand position wins over any of the dealer hold hands and crediting the single player for each dealer hold hand that is beat by the player hold hand and crediting the casino for each dealer hold hand that is not beat by a player hold hand, so that the single player carries out multiple games of blackjack based on the player hold hand at each player hand position.

7. (Presently Amended) An electronic gaming method to be

App. S/N 10/032,676, page 2

displayed on a display screen, the gaming method based on a Blackjack card game played according to a set of rules of Blackjack, the gaming method being played on a gaming terminal having a display screen, a memory, and a processor, the method using a dealer hold criteria and allowing a single player at a location to play blackjack against several dealers from a casino, the gaming method comprising:

Providing a number of independent dealer hand positions, the number of independent dealer hand positions being selected by the single player and comprising at least two independent dealer hand positions displayed on the display screen;

Providing a single player position displayed on the display screen, the single player position having a player selected number of at least ~~one~~ two player hand positions;

Providing wager placement positions displayed on the display screen, the wager placement positions corresponding to each dealer hand position and each player hand position;

Crediting the player for a wager placed in each wager position;

Dealing a pair of cards to the player at each player hand position;

Electronically dealing a pair of cards to each of the dealers, each of the dealers receiving one card face up; and

Electronically dealing cards to each of the player hand positions at the request of the player to create a set of player hold hands;

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Dealing cards to each dealer based on the dealer hold criteria to create a dealer hold hand for each dealer; Then comparing, based on the rules of Blackjack, each of the player hold hand to each dealer hold hand to determine if the player hold hand wins over any of the dealer hold hands and crediting the single player for each dealer hold hand that is beat by the player hold hand and crediting the casino for each dealer hold hand that is not beat by a player hold hand, so that the single player carries out multiple games of blackjack based on the player hold hand.

12. (Presently Amended) An electronic gaming system based on a Blackjack card game played according to a set of rules of Blackjack, the gaming system using a dealer hold criteria and allowing a single player at a location to play blackjack against several dealers from a casino, the gaming system comprising: A gaming station having a display screen, a memory, and a processor, the screen of the gaming station displaying:

User selectable quantity of dealer hand positions, the quantity of dealer hand positions being at least two dealer hand positions;
a single player hand position; and
wager placement positions corresponding with each dealer hand position;

the system being programmed for:

App. S/N 10/032,676, page 4

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To: Examiner Rada, A. P.

Date: 12/8/2003

Fax #: (703) 746-3242

Pages: 4, including this cover sheet.

From: RAMON L. PIZARRO
INFORMAL -FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/032,676

Examiner: Rada, A. P.

Applicant: Jacobs et al.

Group Art Unit: 3714

Filing date: 10/19/2001

Date: 12/10/03

Title: MULTIPLE DEALERS BLACKJACK***INFORMAL- FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY***

In response to the office action of September 10, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below.

1. IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1. (Presently Amended) An electronic gaming method based on a Blackjack card game played according to a set of rules of Blackjack, the gaming method using a dealer hold criteria and allowing a single player at a location to play blackjack against a plurality of dealers from a casino, the gaming method comprising:

Providing a player selected number of independent dealer hand positions comprising of at least two dealer hand positions;

Providing a single player hand position;

Providing wager placement positions corresponding with each

App. S/N 10/032,676, page 1

dealer hand position;

Crediting the player for a wager placed in each wager position;

Dealing a pair of cards to the player to create a player hand;

Dealing a pair of cards to each of the dealers, each of the dealers receiving one card face up;

Dealing cards to the player at the request of the player to create a player hold hand;

Dealing cards to each dealer based on the dealer hold criteria to create a dealer hold hand for each dealer;

Then comparing, based on the rules of Blackjack, the single player hold hand to each dealer hold hand to determine if the player hold hand wins over any of the dealer hold hands and crediting the single player for each dealer hold hand that is beat by the player hold hand and crediting the casino for each dealer hold hand that is not beat by a player hold hand, so that the single player carries out multiple games of blackjack based on the player hold hand.

7. (Presently Amended) An electronic gaming method to be displayed on a display screen, the gaming method based on a Blackjack card game played according to a set of rules of Blackjack, the gaming method being played on a gaming terminal having a display screen, a memory, and a processor, the method using a dealer hold criteria and allowing a single player at a

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Examiner Rada:

The applicant would like to discuss the limitation of at least two "independent dealer hand positions." This limitation is not found in the LeVasseur ('429) or the Moody ('337) references. Moody uses a single dealer hand, and LeVasseur uses hands that are related to one another by the same "up" card (col. 3, lines 42-46).